

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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April 16, 1997      LB 10, 10A, 86, 86A, 635, 635A, 641, 641A  
686  
LR 8, 10, 26, 30, 32, 47

CLERK: Mr. President, two, bills read on Final Reading this morning were presented to the Governor at 11:55 a.m. (LB 10, LB 10A, LB 86, LB 86A, LB 641, LB 641A, LB 635, LB 635A.) And constitutional amendments read on Final Reading this morning were presented to the Secretary of State at 12:10 p.m. (LR 10, LR 26, LR 30, LR 32, LR 47, LR 8). That's all that I have, Mr. President. (See page 1563 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. I would remind the body that we are still dealing with AM1500, as offered by Senator Beutler. I will continue on with the speakers as it left off this morning. Senator Hartnett, to speak.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I'd give my time to Senator Beutler, if he so desires.

SPEAKER WITHEM: And does Senator Beutler so desire?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I do.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But I just wanted to be sure my partner, Senator Kristensen, was here and he's here so we're ready to go. Senator Kristensen, over the lunch hour, I pulled out this little book, Annual Report of Telecommunications, Nebraska Public Service Commission, and I believe we had some conversation about relative rates around the state, and what might happen to those, and, of course, I'm having this conversation because I'm pushing for as much certainty as possible in terms of the funding level of the Universal Service Fund, and I'm looking at a portion of this report, and I've had only an opportunity to skim it, but it's part three of the report; Review of the level of rates of local exchange and interexchange companies. And just glancing at basic local exchange rates, as they are given in the various local exchanges throughout the state, it shows a breakdown, essentially, as I understand it, between business and residential, the R-1 column being residential for various exchanges in the cities within those exchanges. It is interesting to note the wide variance that exists throughout the state with respect to residential rates. Looking at Consolidated Telephone company, which serves